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منظمة العفو الدولية
國際特赦組織

# URGENT ACTION

**EXTERNAL** **AI Index: ASA 21/32/97**

**UA 128/97** **Torture / Fear of torture / Possible "disappearance"** **2 May 1997**

**EAST TIMOR**
**Moises Lobato Pereira (26)**
**Sebastiao Pereira (29)**
**Domingas da Costa (f) (23)**
**Sidonio Ximenes (35)**

The whereabouts of four East Timorese arrested on 4 March 1997 remain unknown, despite efforts by relatives to locate them. The four are already reported to have been severely tortured and there are grave fears that they may be facing further torture or ill-treatment in custody.

The precise circumstances surrounding the arrest of Moises Lobato Pereira, Sebastiao Pereira, Domingas da Costa and Sidonio Ximenes are not known. However, according to unconfirmed reports, they were initially arrested and detained in an unknown location by Team SAKA (former East Timorese independence fighters recruited into the Indonesian army). During this time they were subjected to torture including being hit with rifle barrels until they bled. They were also kicked and Moises Lobato Pereira is reported to have suffered a broken rib as a result. Domingas da Costa reportedly had the sign of the cross sliced into her hand.

All four were then transferred to the headquarters of the military intelligence unit (*Satuan Tugas Intelijen* - SGI) in the town of Baucau. However, when their families attempted to visit the detainees they were told that they had been taken to Dili. Since then there has been no information about their whereabouts.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Arbitrary detention, torture, "disappearance" and extrajudicial executions of individuals suspected of links with the resistance movement continue in East Timor. Individuals taken into both police and military custody are routinely subjected to ill-treatment and torture, particularly during interrogation. The risk of torture is heightened because detainees are generally denied access to legal counsel and to their families. In addition, restrictions are placed by the Indonesian authorities on access to East Timor for independent human rights monitors.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:**
- asking for clarification of the whereabouts of Moises Lobato Pereira, Sebastiao Pereira, Domingas da Costa and Sidonio Ximenes and urging that they be given immediate access to their families, independent lawyers and medical attention;
- seeking guarantees that none of the four will be subjected to further torture and ill-treatment;
- calling for an immediate, impartial and thorough investigation into reports that the four have been tortured and for those responsible to be brought to justice.

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**APPEALS TO:**

Military Commander Region IX/Udayana
(Covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)
Major General Rivai
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar, Bali
Indonesia
**Telegrams: Pangdam IX, Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia**
**Salutation: Dear Major General Rivai**

**Commander of the Armed Forces (ABRI)**
General Feisal Tanjung
Panglima ABRI
Markas Besar ABRI
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No 13
Jakarta Timur
Indonesia
**Telegrams: Markas Besar ABRI, Jakarta Timur, Indonesia**
**Salutation: Dear General Feisal Tanjung**

**COPIES TO:**

National Commission on Human Rights
Komisi Nasional Hak Asazi Manusia (Komnas HAM)
Alex Refialy SH
Jalan Dr Antonio de Carveho
Dili, East Timor
(Indonesia)

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 June 1997.